

# The Eagle.

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SILVER CITY, N. M., DECEMBER 12, 1894.

Silver	61
Lead	3.00

## A WORD OF WARNING.

The taxpayers of Santa Fe county had best be on the alert if they are going to take advantage of the U. S. supreme court's decision as respects the illegality of railway aid bonds issued by counties in the territories. The smooth bond holders are at work on the case. Word from New York is to the effect that they have already taken legal counsel and in the case of Santa Fe county, will fight it out in the courts on the theory that a refunded bond is a new bond entirely, valid in law, no matter how illegal was the original issue. Citizens, what are you going to do about it?—New Mexican.

The conditions surrounding the issue of bonds in Santa Fe county are about the same as those surrounding the issue of bonds in this city. The railroad aid bonds which were issued by Santa Fe county, together with the accrued interest which amounted to a large sum, were refunded a few years ago.

The holders of the bonds brought suit against the county to enforce the payment of the bonds and interest and a judgment was obtained. The case was taken to the supreme court of the territory where the validity of the issue was sustained, Judge Freeman alone dissenting. He maintained that the issue was illegal on substantially the same grounds that the supreme court of the United States decided the Arizona case. After having obtained judgment, the holders of the bonds made a proposition to the board of county commissioners of Santa Fe county to refund the bonds and it was done. New bonds were issued to take up the old bonds and the over due interest coupons.

The last issue of bonds by this city was not only for the purpose of refunding the railroad bonds, but also to fund an indebtedness of about \$4,000 to the Silver City water company. This indebtedness was, of course, in excess of the four per cent. limit and bonds issued to fund this indebtedness would probably be held to be illegal by the courts. The cases of Santa Fe county and Silver City, on this question, are so similar that the steps taken by the officials of Santa Fe county will be watched with interest by the taxpayers of this city.

## A SENSIBLE STAND.

The Transmississippi congress which was in session at St. Louis recently, took a stand on the silver question which is worthy of Americans and which shows that there is yet some independence left among the people of the United States.

The delegates to this congress appeared to think that this country is large enough to take a stand on the silver question without waiting for the action of any of the European powers. They thought that the best plan to prevent the further drain upon this country of its wealth is to remove the cause, and the only practical way of doing this is to pass a free coinage of silver bill.

The Europeans to whom we owe money will not hasten to lighten our burdens, and so long as we insist on paying them two dollars in value for each one that we borrowed they will be very well satisfied. They will continue to talk about honest money and a safe financial basis and tickle the vanity of the great financiers of Wall street who are equally interested with the European money lenders in keeping the producing class of the country in a continual state of peonage.

The resolutions on silver state the case in a forcible way and the democratic party would do well to be guided by it during the three months it yet has to remain in power. The resolutions are as follows:

"WHEREAS, An appreciating money standard impairs all contracts, bankrupts enterprises, makes money profitable by increasing its purchasing power and suspends productive forces of our people; and,

"WHEREAS, The spoliation consequent upon the outlawry of silver in the interest of the creditor class by constantly increasing the value of gold is undermining all industrial society; therefore we demand the immediate restoration of the free and unlimited coinage of gold and silver at the present ratio of 16 to 1, without waiting for the aid or consent of any other nation on earth."

Since the elections the republican newspapers have been saying very little about the tariff increasing the price of sugar two cents a pound. Most of the voters in this country are frequent purchasers of sugar and they are too well acquainted with the price of the article to be deceived by partisan newspapers as to its value. The fact is that the tariff is so small that it never affected the price of sugar appreciably and the article is selling now as cheap as it has ever been sold in this country.

CONGRESS is again in session and its doings during the next three months will be watched with a great deal of interest by the leaders of both parties. Wise action on part of the democrats will insure democratic success in 1896, but a failure to stand by true democratic

principles will give the government over into the hands of the republicans two years hence. It is time for the democrats to pitch the cuckoos overboard, hang the mugwumps to the yard arm and manage the grand old democratic ship with a democratic crew. The ship has been steered by the Cleveland star of destiny until it is upon a dangerous coast and has narrowly avoided being a complete wreck. The old ship has been saved before in times of peril and all that is necessary now is to steer according to the democratic chart and all will be well.

Forty-one of Geronimo's band of cut-throat renegade Indians, who have been confined in Alabama, have been sent back to the San Carlos agency in Arizona. The shipment of these merciless brutes of rapine and murder back to their old stamping ground means more trouble, loss of life and property in the sister territories, and is gross outrage on the part of the government to the people of New Mexico and Arizona.—Black Range.

There is not the slightest foundation in fact for the above item. Not one of Geronimo's band has been returned to Arizona from Alabama. Of the Indians taken from here in 1886 to Florida, some are buried in Florida, others are buried in Alabama, a few yet remain there alive and the remainder are now in the Indian territory under the watchful care of the military authorities at Fort Sill.

The people of this territory will find out in a few days whether a democratic senate is going to listen to the arguments of visiting statesmen from New Mexico in favor of statehood. It remains to be seen how the senate will be convinced that New Mexico is safely democratic in the face of the returns which show that the republicans had something over 2,700 more votes than the democrats in the last election, and a majority over democrats and populists of about 900.

The residents of Santa Fe are leaving no stone unturned to secure the re-establishment of Fort Marcy which was abandoned by order of the secretary of war. It is hardly probable that the post will be reestablished, as it is the policy of the war department to concentrate the troops near the large cities of the country. The big strike of last summer showed that there was greater need of troops in the big cities than on the frontier.

Of late years it has been customary to have more clerks, interpreters and pages who draw salaries out of the territorial treasury during the session of the legislature than there are members of the legislature. This is all very well for the fellows who draw the pay but it is a little rough on the taxpayers to have to pay for needless clerks and lackeys about the legislative halls.